

Beauregard Rezoning Advisory Group Meeting Summary

Monday, October 01, 2012 @ 7:00 PM

Jerome “Buddie” Ford Nature Center, 5750 Sanger Avenue, Alexandria

The Beauregard Rezoning Advisory Group, supported by staff, led the third Advisory Group Meeting. The City Beauregard Rezoning Advisory Group webpage contains a copy of the following from the meeting: 1) Meeting Video; 2) Agenda; 3) Meeting Handout(s), and 4) Staff PowerPoint presentation. It can be located in the Beauregard Rezoning Advisory Group section at: <http://alexandriava.gov/BeauregardPlan>

Meeting Agenda:

- Approval of August 22, 2012 Meeting Summary
- Discussion of Open Space Site Finalists: Polk/Pelham, Parking Lot/Town Center & Seminary/Echols
- Open Space Discussion & Recommendations/Public Comment
- Finalize Language of Recommendation Letter to City Council
- Overview of the Transportation Alternatives Report
- Upcoming Meeting Discussion
- Next Steps

There were approximately 25 attendees at the public meeting, including the Advisory Group Members (roster below). David Baker, the AG Chair and City staff guided the meeting presentation and question & answer segments. A more detailed attendance form is available in the Planning and Zoning Department.

City staff included the following: P&Z (Jeff Farner, Faroll Hamer, Maya Contreras and Amy Friedlander); T&ES (Steve Sindiong); RP&CA (Dana Wedeles); and Office of Housing (Eric Keeler).

Discussion of Open Space Finalists with Recommendation to City Council

See presentation slides for more details. A copy of the meeting presentation is posted on the Beauregard Small Area Plan webpage (www.alexandriava.gov/BeauregardPlan) on the Beauregard Rezoning Advisory Group subpage.

The Advisory Group discussed the three open space sites – Town Center, Polk/Pelham and Seminary/Echolls. Topics of discussion included functionality of the sites, timing of when sites would become available, physical characteristics, costs, connectivity of open space, the importance of placemaking, and accessibility of the site as a resource to the greater community.

During the Open Comment period of the meeting, the community provided additional comments about the strengths and weaknesses of the various sites, balancing costs, reiterated support for the previous suggestion of a linear walking trail, the importance of placemaking, and issues with

process. Ms. Sullivan with the Alexandria Night-Blooming Garden Club provided a letter of support for the Polk site from her organization.

A potential new open site at 1226 N Pegram St was suggested by the Chair, at the request of AG member Carolyn Griglione, who was not able to attend the meeting. The property, which is immediately adjacent to the proposed Polk site had recently been put on the market. After a discussion, the group opted not to include this site for consideration.

The Advisory Group agreed to recommend the Polk site to the City Council as a primary choice for the use of the Open Space funds, with the Town Center/parking lot site as the secondary choice. A draft letter was reviewed and will be finalized and sent to City Council from the AG before the next meeting.

Schedule - Next Steps:

- Next meeting will be October 24, 2012.
- The next two meetings will focus on Transit and the Transportation Alternatives Report.
- Copies of the presentation, the agenda, and video of the meeting to be posted on the Beauregard Small Area Plan website for public download at www.alexandriava.gov/BeauregardPlan

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:45 PM.

Beauregard Rezoning Advisory Group

David Baker, Chair, At-Large Representative

Stephen Beggs, Parks and Recreation Commission Representative (*Judy Noritake attended*)

Don Buch, At-Large Representative

Mike Caison, Affordable Housing Advisory Committee Representative

Dave Cavanaugh, At-Large Representative

Donna Fossum, Planning Commission Representative

Carolyn Griglione, At-Large Representative (*excused absence*)

Hector Pineda, At-Large Representative

Kevin Posey, Transportation Commission Representative

Catherine Puskar, Developer Representative

Josh Sawislak, Environmental Policy Commission Representative (*excused absence*)